creating clusters of excellence *i.e.* "Apparel Park for Exports". The guidelines for the Scheme are being finalised. The objectives of the scheme are as under:—

(i) To give a focused thrust to setting up of modern apparel manufacturing units of international standards in clusters of excellence which will work as one-stop-shop for reputed international buyers.

(ii) To give fillip to domestic production to meet competition from imports and to promote exports in this sector.

(c) and (d) Government do not propose to establishment new textile units in the public sector, at this stage. However, the Government is encouraging investments in private sector through various measures such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), New Investors Entitlement (NIE), System of Quota Policy, concessional duty imports of specified textile and garment machineries @ 5% duty etc.

Weaving capacity in the organised mill sector

1941. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the weaving capacity in the organised mill sector has of late declined even with the removal of restrictions in the creation of capacity in the textile sector as permitted by the Textile Policy of 1985;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the weaving capacity in the organised mill sector; and

(d) the number of mills closed down during the year 2000–2001 and the assistance Government have extended for their revival to the mill-owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) The weaving capacity in the mill sector continues to be almost constant

for last five years. The reasons include structural transformation taking place in the weaving sector, leading to the delinking of weaving activity from the composite mills.

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Government are as follows:

(i) In order to provide impetus to the modernization of textile & jute industry, Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), *w.e.f. 01.04.1999* for a period of 5 years. The weaving sector has been included in the TUF Scheme.

(ii) Reduction of custom duty from 15% to 5% on certain textile machinery.

(iii) Increase in the rate of depreciation of weaving machinery installed under TUFS to 50% from 25%

(d) Thirty two number of cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) have closed down during the year 2000-2001.

The Government of India has enacted the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and established the BIFR with a view to timely detection of sick & potentially sick companies and for the speedy determination of preventive ameliorative and remedial measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. The rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR include various measures like restructuring the capital, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies, change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by Banks and financial institutions.